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March 18, 2014

Honorable Terry B. Gerantana
Honorable Susan M. Johnson
Connecticut General Assembly Public Health Committee

By way of this memo, please permit me to provide written testimony against Raised Bill 5542. The bill, in its current form, is not adequate and does not include one of the most important recommendations from the Connecticut Emergency Medical Services Primary Service Area Task Force.

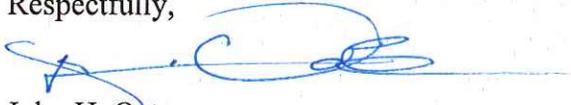
The Task Force was created to study all aspects of the Primary Service Area framework. It employed a broad-based coalition of representatives from across the state. If implemented, the recommendations contained within the final report can set the stage for progress in the State's emergency medical services system.

For reasons only known to them, certain members of the Task Force chose not to support Recommendation 5. This does not mean the recommendation is not valid, pertinent, and important to the residents of the State of Connecticut.

I urge you to add the language contained within Recommendation 5 and forward the bill for consideration by the entire body.

I appreciate your consideration and look forward to your resolution.

Respectfully,


John H. Oates

Fire Chief
East Hartford, Connecticut